ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method that schedules and allocates data transmissions over communication channels within a broad-band communications system is provided. Data transmissions are first scheduled with priority to data service users granted access to radio

5   resources first, until more data transmissions require service than there are radio resources available. Then, data transmissions are scheduled according to a resource scheduling priority **135** as determined by a resource scheduling function within a resource scheduling and allocation algorithm **300, 500**. The resource scheduling function considers various communications parameters (e.g., frame count, transmission time, number of data frames

10   queued, signal/noise ratio, frame error rate (FER), bit error rate (BER), transmission delay, jitter, etc.) and can be implemented to treat data service requests proportionately (algorithm **300**) or disproportionately (algorithm **500**). Once assigned, allocation of the radio resource to a given data transmission is based on a resource allocation parameter **140** (e.g., frame count, transmission time).

15